

Title	THE COAL LEGACY
Level	Primary
Subject	Earth Science / Environmental Science
Duration	35-40 minutes
Objective	The students will learn about a previous mine explosion and what steps are taken today to enhance a miner's safety.
Contributor	Scott Frederick – Ringgold School District

➤ **ACTIVITY**

✓ **Background Information**

The Cincinnati Mine was an underground mine located along the Monongahela River approximately 16 miles south of Pittsburgh PA. When an explosion occurred in April of 1913 250 people were employed at the mine.

✓ **Method/Procedure**

Identification of terms, oral reading, discussion, and interpretation of the materials.

✓ **Materials**

- a. Contemporary account of the Cincinnati Mine Disaster
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wvcoal/finley.html>
- b. Overhead of a miner in his work clothes and accompanying safety equipment. – Page 2

The following terms should be identified and defined by students.

1. **Hard Hat** Protects miners head from falling objects and electrical shock.
2. **Safety Glasses** Protects miner's eyes from coal dust and insures better visibility.
3. **Miners Cap Lamp** Used to assist the miner to see underground.
4. **Ear Muffs** Protects miner's ears from loud and harmful noises.
5. **Respirator** Protects the miner's lungs from coal dust inside the mine.
6. **Methane Detector** Detects explosive and dangerous gases inside the mine.
7. **Safety Belt & Suspenders** Helps give the miners added back and leg support.
8. **Reflectors** Miners wear these so they are more visible to others inside the mines.
9. **Self Rescuer** Allows miners to breathe for 1.5 hours if oxygen supply is cut off.
10. **Battery** Used to power the light on top of the miner's helmet.
11. **Lunch Box** A safe place where miners can store food and a water supply.
12. **Coveralls** Used by many miners as a clothing protector.
13. **Ankle Straps** Keeps the miners' overalls close and tight to their bodies.
14. **Steel-toed shoes** Are worn to protect miner's feet from rocks and heavy equipment.

Use this picture for the overhead display of miner's equipment. Make sure to print on a transparent film.

